

In the meantime, however, the farmer, with a philosophy which permits him to suffer loss year after year and continue in business at the same old stand, is girding himself to weather the storms ahead.

1. The farmer is becoming a great user of mechanical power—tractors, trucks, harvesters, electric motors, feed grinders, quick-freezing units, and many labor-saving devices. Forty-five per cent of the farms in America have electricity today. Ninety per cent of the farms should have the use of electric energy by 1950. The farms of tomorrow will have increased production with less manpower. The farm wage scale will continue to increase until it is comparable to the factory wage scale. The man who drives a tractor in cultivation of the crops, requiring considerable skill if the job is well done, should be paid on a wage level comparable with the man who works on the assembly line which made the tractor.

2. The farmers of tomorrow will demand better marketing facilities for their crops. Too long and too often have the farmers of this country been selling the fruits of their labor in a buyers' market. Too many times the produce and potato farmers of the South have received less than the freight charges on carloads of food shipped to the large urban centers.

The farmers of North Carolina, along with other Southern states, see clearly that if a well-rounded and highly prosperous agriculture is to be achieved, farm products must have modern marketing facilities. Artificial trade barriers between the states must go. Discriminatory transportation systems, starting at state and municipal boundaries, are contrary to the best interests of the people who produce food for sale and to the consuming public who buy it. It is unthinkable that the governing bodies of our large cities would sanction legalized holdups of truckloads of fresh food and vegetables in order to collect ransom for the benefit of the modern bandits.

The market system must be up-to-date and capable of reaching consumers rapidly and without too many intervening profit-taking hands between the producer and consumer.

Large urban centers will have modern terminal markets where farm products can pass directly from the shipper to the wholesaler and retailer. Radio communication will enable the shipper to know almost exactly what his product will bring at the time he ships it.